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people are constant to great political and social ideals, intelligent and devoted to family, home and country. Dr. George E. Hale, the astronomer, and at present chairman of the National Research Council, writes on the intellectual inspiration of Paris, giving special attention to the work of Louis Pasteur. These introductions are followed by a series of articles beginning with anthropology, archeology and astronomy, and taking up in alphabetical order the main departments of science and scholarship. Each of the articles gives a brief description of French contributions to the subject, with special reference to the contemporary conditions at Paris and the provincial universities. There is finally given a full account of the educational advantages for Americans in France; a history of the recent changes in the university system; an account of the institutions of higher learning, their organization, degrees, requirements, fees, etc., and practical suggestions to students intending to take up graduate studies in France.

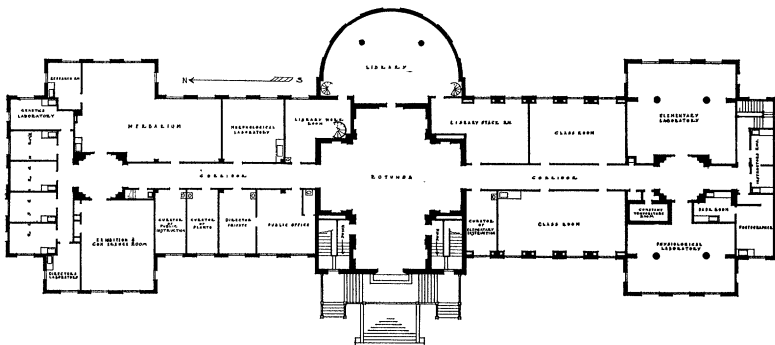
The great majority, probably more than nine tenths, of American students who have taken up work in foreign universities have done so in Germany. The universities of France and Great Britain have been too much neglected. In recent years the

great development of American universities and the practical opportunities, offered by fellowships and promotion to positions have led most students to remain at home. It is, however, extremely desirable that there be a free exchange of students between our universities and those of the great European nations.

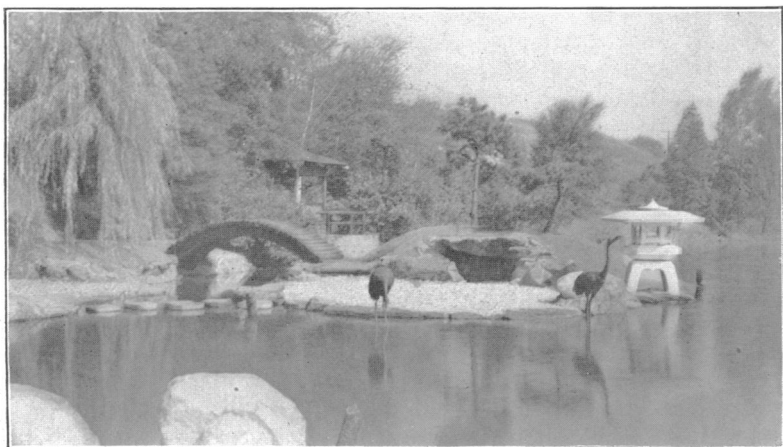
### THE BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

THE completed laboratory building and plant houses of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden have been dedicated with addresses by Prof. John Merle Coulter, officials of the City of New York, of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, of which the garden is a department, and by the director of the garden, Dr. C. Stuart Gager. Scientific sessions were held on two days, papers were read by thirty-nine botanists representing twenty institutions.

An article on the initial development and plans of the garden appeared in *The Popular Science Monthly* for April, 1912. Since that date the grounds have been enlarged by the addition of about ten acres, bringing two of the entrance gates directly opposite stations on the new subway lines, thus making the garden one of the most easily accessible of the numerous scientific institutions in Greater New York. The



MAIN FLOOR PLAN OF THE LABORATORY BUILDING.



IN THE BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN.

completion of the laboratory building and plant houses, at a cost of over \$285,000, was made possible by a private gift of \$100,000.

In planning the building and grounds, and the character of the conservatory collections, there has been constantly kept in mind the broad aims of the garden, as tersely expressed by the phrase, "the advancement of botany and the service of the city." A scientific institution, supported in part by public taxation, not only enjoys opportunities, but has certain definite obligations to make direct returns to the community that supports it. The science of botany must not only be advanced by research, but the fruits of investigation should be interpreted to the general public in a reliable manner, and in terms that laymen can understand. Nothing hampers the financial support of scientific research more than the ignorance of the general public as to its nature and its value to mankind.

The plantations comprise the following sections: systematic, local flora, morphological, ecological, evolution and plant breeding, economic, and formal and other special sections. The unique feature of the

systematic section, occupying about five acres, is the combination of the herbaceous garden with the fruticetum. Beds of herbaceous plants are grouped in orders, and each ordinal group is enclosed by a planting of the shrubs botanically related to the plants in the beds. The educational value of such an arrangement is very great, making it possible to bring out relationships and contrasts not possible where the fruticetum is developed as a feature apart.

The local flora section has proved to be of great popularity, and has been a valuable factor in the propaganda for the preservation of our native wild flowers. Among the special garden features may be mentioned the Japanese garden (pronounced by Japanese critics as the finest garden of its kind in a public park in America), and the rock garden, the only garden of its kind accessible to the general public in Greater New York, and one of a very few public rock gardens in the United States.

The conservatory collections are developed along two lines—systematic and economic. The economic house has been especially appreciated by local schools in connection

with their nature study and geography. Provision is made for a mushroom cellar, for the display of both edible and poisonous species; and there are four cases for liverworts, mosses and filmy ferns. One range of greenhouses is devoted to the elementary instruction of children, and the classes for the preparation of gardeners and garden teachers. One plant house is devoted to investigation.

The north end of the laboratory building, and a portion of the south end, are planned primarily for the accommodation of research. In this work special emphasis will be laid on the experimental phases of botany, including physiology, genetics and pathology. There are eight private research rooms, four general laboratories, a sterilizing and culture room, two class rooms, herbarium, library, experimental dark room, photographer's suite, a children's room, and a lecture hall seating five hundred and seventy. Offices of administration occupy a portion of the main floor.

The scientific staff at present numbers eight, of curatorial rank, with one resident investigator and one research fellow. The garden publications include an administrative quarterly (the *Record*), *Contributions*, a series of popular *Leaflets*, *Seed List* (annual), and the *American Journal of Botany*. The latter is published in cooperation with the Botanical Society of America. The first number of a series of scientific Memoirs is now being edited for publication.

In the way of serving the local community it may be mentioned that according to the *Sixth Annual Report* of the garden, over 14,000 children and adults attended regular garden classes, in addition to over 8,500 pupils from local schools who visited the garden with their teachers under the guidance of a garden

docent, and also in addition to nearly 6,500 who attended public lectures.

As an illustration of one kind of service that botany can render in the stress of war, attention may be called to the fact that a large portion of the Botanic Garden grounds have, this year, been temporarily devoted to war gardens. Over 400 individuals are now cultivating these gardens, the individual plots varying in size from  $8 \times 10$  feet to  $20 \times 40$  feet. The garden has also assumed responsibility for starting and inspecting, during the growing season, over one hundred vacant lot gardens in Brooklyn, varying in size from a city lot to several acres. The entire time of one gardener, so far as needed, has been devoted to this work, and thousands of copies of popular pamphlets have been distributed on various phases of gardening, garden pests, preserving the surplus crops, and other related topics.

In short, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden has sought at every point to do two things: (1) to be directly useful to the community that supports and fosters it; (2) to advance and diffuse a knowledge and love of plants. Experience has shown that each of these lines of activity reacts favorably upon the other. The extension of the scientific work is contingent only upon an adequate endowment for that purpose, for, while the city largely (but not wholly) meets the annual cost of maintenance, the garden is chiefly dependent upon private funds for investigation and publication.

#### SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

WE record with regret the death of Adolf von Baeyer, professor of chemistry at Munich, distinguished for his work on synthetic indigo and in other directions, and of Eduard Buchner, professor of chemistry at